

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (previously presented). A method of inhibiting or reducing the proliferation of prostate cancer cells that express a sPLA₂-IIA polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 in a human subject who has been subjected to androgen ablation therapy, the method comprising administering to the subject a selective inhibitor of the enzyme activity of the polypeptide, wherein the inhibitor inhibits the ability of the polypeptide to catalyse the hydrolysis of membrane phospholipids at the sn-2 position to release fatty acids and lysophospholipids, wherein the inhibitor inhibits the sPLA₂-IIA-mediated proliferation of prostate cancer cells, and wherein the inhibitor is a cyclic peptide of the following formula:

A1-A2-A3-A4-A5, in which

A1 is F or Y or W or 2Nap

A2 is L or I

A3 is S or T

A4 is F or Y or W or 2Nap, and

A5 is R or K.

2 (canceled).

3 (previously presented). A method according to claim 1 wherein the prostate cancer cells are androgen independent prostate cancer (AIPC) cells.

4-9 (canceled).

10 (previously presented). A method according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of cFLSYK (SEQ ID NO:5), cFLSYR (SEQ ID NO:6) and c(2NapA)LS(2NapA)R.

11-17 (canceled).